

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)

Takao OGAWA et al.)

Serial No. 09/385,574)

Filed: 08/30/1999)

For: LIGHT SHIELDING BLADE)
MATERIAL FOR OPTICAL)
APPARATUS)

Group Art Unit: 1774

Examiner: K. Nguyen

#14/C
6/12/03
Jen

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

RECEIVED
JUL - 9 2003

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 24, 2002, the due date for which having been extended three (3) months to June 24, 2003, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended) A light shielding blade material for use in an optical apparatus, comprising:

a substrate composed of a plastic film having a pair of surfaces opposed to each other, said substrate having no reinforcing fibers;

a shield coating being capable of blocking an incident light and being formed on each surface of the substrate, the shield coating being composed of a paint resin containing a carbon black;

a reinforcement member disposed on each shield coating, the reinforcement member being composed of a thermosetting resin prepreg sheet reinforced with fibers arranged in an alignment direction, and hardened to laminate with the substrate through the shield coating, the thermosetting resin prepreg sheet containing no carbon black; and

a lubricant coating having a black appearance and a lubricity sufficient to suppress a